

A. Claim 1

Applicant submits that claim 1 is not rendered obvious over Takeda in view of the APA.

In the March 1, 2002, Office Action, the Examiner maintained that Takeda suggests a method of previewing print data similar to the method claimed in claim 1. In response to this rejection, Applicant submitted the following arguments:

In claim 1, print data is spooled, and the spooled print data is converted into display data. Also, the display data, which is being displayed, is edited based on edited data, and the edited display data is converted into a structure of the spooled print data. The Examiner seems to contend that the editing and previewing options displayed on the display unit 221 and described at column 9, lines 9-17, of Takeda correspond to the claimed method of editing display data. However, Applicants submit that the Examiner is misinterpreting and/or misapplying the teachings of Takeda.

For example, column 9, lines 11-14, of the reference specifically states that the display data comprises files in each spool area and function keys and states that Fig. 6 shows a display of such files and function keys. Clearly, the displayed file names and function keys are displayed on the screen, but they are not edited. Also, no suggestion exists that spooled print data is converted into the files and function keys (i.e. the alleged display data).

In addition, although column 7, lines 59-60, of Takeda mention “editing on a per-spool basis,” there is absolutely no disclosure regarding what data is edited or how any data is edited. Furthermore, as shown in Fig. 6, the display unit 221 shown in Fig. 6 is merely a small panel, and one skilled in the art clearly cannot determine how any displayed data is edited, and thus, it does not suggest editing data as claimed in claim 1.

On pages 5-6 of the current Office Action, the Examiner has not adequately rebutted the arguments above. Specifically, the Examiner states on page 6, lines 1-3: “In response, Examiner believes that the limitations “edit the display data which is being displayed...” are anticipated by Takeda, “the file in each spool area...editing and previewing are displayed on the display unit; col.9, lines 9-17.” This rationale merely repeats verbatim the rationale contained in the March 1, 2002 Office Action, as shown on page 4, lines 13-15: “editing the display data which is being

displayed, on the basis of edited data which is input at the display (the file in each spool area...editing and previewing are displayed on the display unit 221; col. 9, lines 9-17)". As stated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.104(b), an Examiner's action must be complete as to all matters. However, the Examiner has not indicated why the arguments presented do not overcome the rejection, but rather just repeated the prior rejection.

Additionally, the Examiner acknowledges that Takeda does not teach inversely converting the edited display data into a structure of spooled print data, but contends that page 1, lines 14-19 of the APA does. However, Applicant submits that the APA does not suggest such a feature. The APA relates to a process that first converts data into a print control code, and then converted data is spooled and further despoiled before being sent to a printing device.

The Examiner appears to assert that the despooling or "inversely spooling" of data is synonymous with the "inverse conversion" of data of the claimed invention. However, Applicant believes that the Examiner is incorrect. The definition of spooling is "to store (data sent to a printer) in a buffer, allowing the program that sent the data to the printer to resume its normal operation." (See the enclosed printout of the definition for spooling, which was found from the following site, www.dictionary.com/search?q=spooling, The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, Fourth Edition, Copyright 2000 by Houghton Mifflin Company.) The second step, despooling, is where the printer or computer then retrieves and reads out the files that were spooled.

Inverse conversion of edited display data into a particular structure is not the same as the storing and retrieving of data explained above. Rather, inverse conversion converts display data

into print data. In other words, the operation of inversely converting data is not taught by the spooling and despooling (inverse spooling) as described on page 1, lines 14-19.

Therefore, even if combined, Takeda and the APA do not suggest all of the features recited in the claims. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claim 1 is patentable and respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the rejection.

B. Claim 2-6

Since claims 2-6 are dependent upon claim 1, Applicant submits that such claims are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

C. Claim 7

Since claim 7 contains features that are similar to the features recited in claim 1, Applicant submits that such claim is patentable for similar reasons.

D. Claims 8-9

Since claims 8-9 are dependent upon claim 7, Applicant submits that such claims are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

E. Claim 10

Since claim 10 contains features that are similar to the features recited in claim 1, Applicant submits that such claim is patentable for similar reasons.

Response under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
U.S. Application No. 09/240,695

F. Claims 11-16

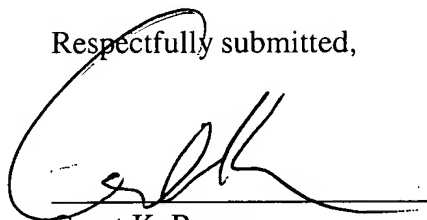
Since claims 11-16 are dependent upon claim 10, Applicant submits that such claims are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

II. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

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